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STAFF

DATE-TIME GROUP  
**161827Z**

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

**125981**

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CONF: **SA/b/o** INFO: FILE **EXC8, 1P/AMS, LA8 OLC**  
**2004, 000/00, 000/50,**

DIRECTOR

TO: LISBON, INFO LONDON, MEXICO CITY. 4

RYBAT, UNINTEL RNVIEW 4

**(1) C/H****(2) fil**

1. U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SELECT COMMITTEE ON  
**ASSASSINATIONS WHO CURRENTLY INVESTIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES**.  
 SURROUNDING ASSASSINATIONS OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND DR. MARTIN  
 LUTHER KING HAS TOLD STATE THAT THEY INTEND TO PURSUE LEADS IN  
 PORTUGAL, UK AND MEXICO RELATING TO JAMES EARL RAY, CURRENTLY  
 SERVING TIME FOR KING MURDER. THEY BASING THIS INTEREST ON  
 INFORMATION THAT RAY WAS IN LISBON BRIEFLY IN MAY 1968, SHORTLY  
 BEFORE HIS APPREHENSION IN LONDON IN JUNE 1968. 4

2. MR. G. ROBERT BLAKEY, CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR  
 OF COMMITTEE SAYS SELECT COMMITTEE TOLD STATE THAT HE WANTS TO  
 ESTABLISH "CORDIAL RELATIONSHIP" WITH APPROPRIATE PORTUGUESE  
 NATIONAL POLICE AND HOPES TO ENLIST THEIR ASSISTANCE INCLUDING  
 ACCESS TO THEIR FILES AND IN LOCATING AND INTERVIEWING POTENTIAL  
 WITNESSES. 4

3. DEPARTMENT HAS SOLICITED EMBASSY SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW  
 BLAKEY SHOULD PROCEED. 4

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## OUTGOING MESSAGE

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4. WISH TO CALL ABOVE TO ADDRESSEES' ATTENTION IN EVENT  
 STATIONS ARE SOLICITED FOR ADVICE OR ASSISTANCE. ACTION IS  
 COOPERATING FULLY WITH BLAKELY AND COMMITTEE INCLUDING ALLOWING  
 THEM ACCESS TO DIRECTORATE RECORDS, AFTER SUITABLE SANITIZATION  
 FOR SOURCES AND METHODS. HOWEVER, BELIEVE COMMITTEE'S EFFORTS  
 TO INTERVIEW POLICE AND WITNESSES AND RESULTING USEFUL INFORMATION  
 OBTAINED, IF ANY, IS LARGELY OVERT FUNCTION WHICH CAN BEST BE  
 HANDLED BY LEGATTS OR OTHERS WHO WOULD ALSO BE IN A POSITION TO  
 BE PUBLICLY QUOTED OR IDENTIFIED IF NECESSARY. 4

5. STATIONS EXPECTED TO PROVIDE EMBASSY BEST ADVICE IF  
 SOLICITED BUT REQUESTED TO AVOID INVOLVING STATION OFFICERS IN  
 NEGOTIATIONS EVEN IN THEIR COVER CAPACITIES. IF CIRCUMSTANCES  
 SUCH THAT THIS UNAVOIDABLE, PLEASE ADVISE HQS BY CABLE SO THAT  
 THE MATTER CAN BE APPROPRIATELY HANDLED WITH BLAKELY AND  
 DEPARTMENT. ■ H

ORIG: 0/SA/DO/0 {SOVERN}; COORD: OLC {CUMMINS}, DC/LA {LAUDER},  
 C/LA {HAWKINS} <sup>JAMES</sup>, DC/EUR/BC {ESTES}, C/EUR/IB {BERGER}; AUTH:  
 SA/DO/0 {KATROSH}; REL: DC/EUR {ESTES}..J

DATE: 14 NOVEMBER 1977  
 ORIG: MASOVERN  
 UNIT: 0/SA/DO/0  
 EXT: 1542

DC/EUR  
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C/LA/STATE {S-10/States}  
 OLC - *Signatures?*  
 DC/EUR/BC *DC/AN* *W. D. Johnson*  
 C/EUR/IB *for G. S. Estes*  
 C/LA/MR *G. S. Estes*  
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